

Next Town Council Meeting

November 1, 2008

Manure Management



From the Chair

By Melanie Fallon

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A big thank you to the Fire Department and the Fire Auxiliary for another wonderfully successful Pancake Breakfast! The food was hearty and delicious – all the community attended and there were even some very cute handmade gifts on sale. A job well done – thanks everyone!

ELFIN FOREST AND HARMONY GROVE COMMUNITY PLANS.

Your Town Council Board is very happy to report that we did finally (whew!) complete the Elfin Forest and Harmony Grove Community Plans and they have been submitted to the County. We should receive comments from the staff within a few months and then the plans will be part of the public review process for the County’s new General Plan. We will keep you posted as to that process over the next months. And, before I

forget, I want to thank everyone in the Elfin Forest and Harmony Grove communities that reviewed documents came to meetings and generally gave us a lot of support and assistance. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

MANURE MANAGEMENT.

One of the issues that is a priority in our community (and our Community Plans!), is improving the quality of the water in our beloved Escondido Creek! Horse manure polluting the Creek from the horses in our Valley is a very big problem! And many residents who own horses can and should do a better job of controlling their horse manure from ultimately going into the Creek. The Town Council will be spending much time on this issue in upcoming months by educating ourselves and fellow residents and sponsoring in-

formation-sharing meetings. The first discussion will be held at our next Town Council meeting on Wednesday November 5 at 7:30 pm. Stephanie Gaines, from San Diego County will attend to present a couple of topics, “HOW TO MANAGE MANURE,” and “DESIGNING LIVESTOCK CORRALS/MANURE CONTAINMENT.” Everyone who has horses (and even those that don’t!) should plan on attending. The issue of proper manure management is something that we have to do better job of in this valley – please come and learn what you need to do to clean up your act!

DARK SKIES. Soon clocks will be turned back so we will lose some of our precious sunlight and it is a good time to also think about

From the Chair (Continued)

how much outdoor lighting you have! Remember that Elfin Forest and Harmony Grove values its dark nighttime skies and you should not be using exterior lights after 10 pm.

FIRE SEASON. Not that any of us have or can forget, but please stay vigilant during this very dry fire season. If you see, hear or smell anything, please report it immediately.

LASTLY, DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!

Fire Advisory Board Election Results

The Fire Advisory Board thanks each and everyone who mailed in their ballots and attended the Annual meeting.

Newly elected Director is Tony Debellis, and re-elected Directors are Ken Dubs, Rob Hill and Byron Macfarlane. Dave Jones was elected to the Alternate member position. The next two years should be rewarding and challenging. Next year, our "bond" for the payment of the fire station building and land comes to an end. This was a 20 year bond and was paid through a portion of your benefit fees but mostly from building fee's from our CSA. 20 years went by quickly.

We all should be proud of the foresight we had to

secure the property for our future.

The challenge will be to secure a lease with the County that does not include a lease payment. Managing the finances will be challenging. Fire Chief Frank Twohy does an excellent job in keeping his budget in line. The benefit fee's collected just barley keep the station doors open and trucks rolling out. Thanks to our nonprofit, the grants and donations received add the spit and polish.

Like most nonprofits in this economy, donations are declining. The Board's challenge will be to secure additional donations and grants and to make the most of what we have.

With our new board members, I assure you, we will rise to the challenge.

The Fire Board meets on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7 PM. These are public meetings.

You are always welcome.

Nona T Barker
 Captain 2808
 Chairwomen
 Elfin Forest/Harmony
 Grove Fire Department
 County Service Area 107
nbarker@eff-fire.org
 20223 Elfin Forest Road
 Elfin Forest, CA 92029
 Station: 760-744-2186
 Fax: 760-744-9504
 Cell: 760-415-6635
www.elfinforestfire.org

TOWN COUNCIL ELECTIONS

February 2009

If you care about —

our trails,

keeping out development,

minimizing traffic,

maintaining the current zoning,

or any of the other issues that can threaten your lifestyle in our amazing valley please consider running for a position on the Town Council Board.

*Please consider serving this very special
community of ours.*

We meet twice monthly on Wednesday nights at the Fire station

If you are interested in running please contact Melanie Fallon at mfallon@hughes.net. If you think you might like to run, contact any board member listed on the back of this document for further information.

Minutes from the September 3 Elfin Forest/ Harmony Grove Town Council Meeting

Town Council Committee Contacts

Bridges :

Jacqueline Arsivaud-
Benjamin 891-9061

Sage Hills:

Eric Anderson
471-1464

University Heights:

Melanie Fallon
744-7090

Harmony Grove Meadows:

Mid Hoppenrath
747-1145

Citracado Parkway:

Mid Hoppenrath
747-1145

Cielo Del Norte:

Open

Heritage (including Citizen of the Year plaques):

Open

Fund Raising: Manu
Sohaey 510-9114

Board members present were Jacqueline Ar-sivaud-Benjamin, Melanie Fallon, May Meintjes, Bill Telesco, Chris Dye, Eric Anderson, and Mid Hoppenrath

The meeting was called to order at 7:36 pm.

After the pledge of alle-giance and membership introductions, May gave the treasurer’s report.

Melanie welcomed new board member and Har-mony Grove resident, Chris Dye. She ex-plaind that Sal La Corte had resigned and that Chris will be filling his term until the February elections. In her chair-person’s report, Melanie noted that the electric gate at via Ambiente had been repaired. She re-minded the attendees of the upcoming Fire De-partment Pancake Break-

fast.

During the board up-dates, Jacqueline re-ported on the Bridges Tennis Court Complex and of the EFHGTC Board plans to submit a letter pointing out the adverse impacts to our community. Comments were due to the San Dieguito Planning Group by Oct. 9.

We next held discussions on the Elfin Forest and Harmony Grove Com-munity Plans. Melanie reported that both the Elfin Forest and Har-mony Grove Community Background Report and the Vision Statements had been posted on the Town Council web site (www.efhgtc.org) and had been submitted to the County.

Those attending dis-cussed the Elfin Forest and Harmony Grove

draft Goals and Policies documents. Portions of each plan were read aloud, and comments were received from the audience.

There were no open fo-rum issues.

The meeting was ad-journed at 9:10 pm.

*Respectfully submitted
by Mid Hoppenrath*

Charity Begins at Home

I know the economy is in a bad place right now but I also know that most of us residing in Elfin Forest and Harmony Grove [EF/HG] will still be making donations to our favorite causes/charities this year.

The purpose of this article is to remind you that there are several “giving” opportunities right here at home that will help our local community organizations to continue to preserve EF/HG as the wonderful place it is.

I urge you to consider giving some of your hard earned money as tax-deductible donations to any or all of the following 501 (c) (3) non-profit corporations:

1. The Elfin Forest-Harmony Grove Town Council

Donations go to sponsor various community wide events such as the Fourth of July picnic, as well as everything necessary to “keep it rural” - up to and including challenging developers trying to build more houses than permitted by our general plan.

2. The Elfin Forest-Harmony Grove Fire Department, Inc

Donations to our Fire Department will go toward the construction of a new dormitory facility to adequately house our firefighters, as well as the purchase of fire-fighting equipment. You can not put a price on having the type of dedicated firefighters that we do so we owe them a decent facility – give generously.

3. The Elfin Forest Community Foundation

Donations to the Community Foundation will go toward continuing improvements to our community. Recently funded projects were: new trail fencing, monument signage, wild-flower seeds, a GIS mapping system, and personal protective equipment for our firemen.

4. The Escondido Creek Conservancy [TECC]

Donations to TECC will go toward the purchase of land in the Escondido Creek watershed [all of ours backyard!]. TECC’s mission is to preserve open space, endangered wildlife habitat, and the

rural life style we all enjoy. TECC has played a major role in preserving over 1000 acres so far!

All four of the organizations above are run by unpaid volunteers whom are your neighbors. They all want to preserve and enhance our wonderful living environment and keep us safe.

So, now that you have read this far its time to contact the people below and send them checks to help make your neighborhood even better and safer!

Town Council – Melanie Fallon, Chair, mfallon@hughes.net

Fire Department – Nona Barker, Chair, ecllamas@aol.com

Community Foundation – Steve Barker, Chair, steve_barker@vfc.com

TECC – Kevin Barnard – Managing Director, info@escondidocreek.org

THANKS FOR GIVING

Tony De Bellis

Town Council Committee Contacts

Communications :

Karen Gardner 744-9500

Fourth of July Picnic:

May Meintjes 744-7090

Garden Festival:

Jacqueline Arsvaud-Benjamin 891-9061,
Karen Gardner 744-9500

Fourth of July Parade:

Eric Anderson
471-1464

Trails:

Mid Hoppenrath
747-1145

Welcoming :

Tony De Bellis 744-7090.

Animal Evacuation:

Karen Gardner 744-9500

“Listen to the sound of the river and you will get a trout.”

-Irish Proverb



If we can create clean free-flowing rivers by respecting and taking care of our natural resources, we might once again witness the amazing Rainbow - to - Steelhead natural life cycle in San Diego County..

Imagine standing at the edge of the Escondido Creek in a shaded oak grove and watching Steelhead migrate upstream to spawn in the sand shallows further upstream. Not too many decades ago it was an annual ritual.

The Southern Steelhead is a rainbow trout that has adapted to live in the ocean. Like other salmonids, they spawn in fresh water rivers, streams, and creeks. Some of the off-spring will live out their lives in fresh water, and we know these as Rainbow Trout. Others will migrate back to the ocean between the age of one and three years, growing larger and faster than their fresh water relatives. Southern Steelhead genetically differ from their northern cousins and are able to tolerate warmer waters and lower oxygen levels typical of Southern California creek and streams. Steelhead usually return to the ocean after a spawn cycle and often return two or three times into fresh waters to repeatedly spawn over their life span.

The historic range of the Southern Steelhead is from Monterey County in Central California to Baja Mexico. In the past decade, Southern Steelhead have been discovered in creeks on Camp Pendleton and in creeks in Orange County.

The Escondido Creek Conservancy (TECC) is exploring the possibility of restoring Southern Steelhead to the Escondido Creek. This would be a major under-taking, but worth the effort. In recent years large areas of the creek have been restored to native vegetation, a critical step in reintroducing Steelhead to the creek. Average water temperatures and oxygen levels in the creek have tested within acceptable limits for Steelhead survival.

Can you imagine?

Kevin Barnard

Executive Director

TECC

Honor Thy Neighbor

It is that time of year when we recognize Elfin Forest and Harmony Grove citizens for a job well done over the past year.

Community stewardship can consist of anything from going the extra mile in roadside prop-

erty beautification to saving the valley from a potentially devastating wildfire.

Please nominate anyone that you think deserves some extra recognition.

Send nominations and a brief paragraph about why this person should

be honored to me at Karen@vintagematerialism.com or call me at 760-744-9500

By Karen Gardner



Sheriff Department Contacts

In an emergency, please call 911.

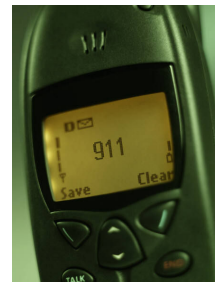
For non-emergency reporting, contact the following:

General - 760-510-5200

Agriculture crime prevention specialist (Jackie Cruz) - 760-940-4350

Crime Prevention Specialist/Neighborhood Watch (Betty (B.J.) Williams) - 760-510-5254

San Marcos Patrol Station:
182 Santar Place
San Marcos, CA 92069



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Jaisa Bright is a native San Diegan with an intense passion for California, its homes, history and ranches. A graduate from UCSD and an avid equestrian since age 5, Jaisa has been one of California's top luxury home and ranch brokers for over 9 years. She is an eco savvy broker who looks for alternative energy opportunities for every home and ranch she sells. Jaisa has aided in the procurement of open spaces and land for local conservancies. Her office is located in Rancho Santa Fe California, and she is not only a ranch broker, she is a rancher herself calling a small avocado and equestrian ranch in Elfin Forest home. "San Diego has a majestic serenity that is both calming and awe inspiring and I know that with every ranch or home I sell I am able to help my clients find a personal sanctuary, the idea that this refuge can also aid in preservation is a beautiful thing for everything and everyone."

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Amanda Clerke – Experienced Babysitter/Pet Care. Elfin Forest resident, RSF School. YMCA babysitter certification. 14 years old. Please call 760-510-0143.

Jessica MacKinnon - Babysitting/Feed Animals, EF Resident, 15 years old, SFC High School - 10th grade, took babysitting course through Red Cross. Contact at 760-744-8955.

Retired pre-school teacher and animal lover available for evening and late night child care. CPR, First Aid is up to date. Plenty of references. I would love to care for your animals as well. Elfin Forest resident. Mary Ann 760 591-3111.

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Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Town Council Board members: Eric Anderson 471-1464, Jacqueline Arivaud-Benjamin 891-9061, Melanie Fallon 744-7090, Karen Gardner 744-9500, Mid Hoppenrath 747-1145, Chris Dye 420-8161, May Meintjes 744-7336, Manu Sohaey 510-9114 and Bill Telesco 746.4692.

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